



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/667,440	09/22/2000	Makoto Kurihara	000583	9375
23850	7590	12/04/2003	EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP 1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			ZEENDER, FLORIAN M	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3627

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s) KURIHARA ET AL.
	09/667,440	
	Examiner F. Ryan Zeender	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,4 and 5 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

Art Unit: 3627

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by EP0813325A2.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by WO99/23617.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP0813325A2 in view of Bezos '163.

EP0813325A2 discloses all the limitations of the claims except the specifics of the encryption.

Bezos teaches the specifics of encryption as claimed by applicant (see for example, Col. 2, lines 12-43).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify EP0813325A2 to include the encryption technology, as taught by Bezos, in order to provide a more "secure" system (See Bezos Col. 2, line 21).

Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO99/23617 in view of Bezos '163.

WO99/236172 discloses all the limitations of the claims except the specifics of the encryption.

- Art Unit: 3627

Bezos teaches the specifics of encryption as claimed by applicant (see for example, Col. 2, lines 12-43).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify WO99/23617 to include the encryption technology, as taught by Bezos, in order to provide a more "secure" system (See Bezos Col. 2, line 21).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 28, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The arguments with respect to EP '325 are not convincing in that the reference teaches the limitations of claim 3. Specifically, the "the authentication of a personal identification number of a card having the function of settling a price of purchase made by a user is accomplished over the private (secure) line". The Examiner directs the applicant's attention to: for example, column 3, lines 17-20. A credit number is provided by the user to the secure transaction server 19. It is well known in the art that a "credit number" often comes in the form of a credit card which is unique to the user.

The arguments with respect to WO '617 are not convincing for the same reason as the EP reference. The Examiner directs the applicant's attention to: for example pages 32-34 where payment is discussed using a credit card. It is well known in the art that credit cards come with a number that is unique to the user.

Conclusion

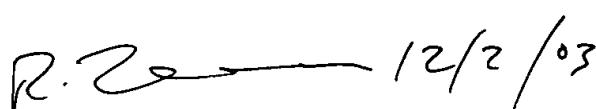
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- Art Unit: 3627

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to F. Ryan Zeender whose telephone number is (703) 308-8351. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bob Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The receptionist's phone number for the Technology center is (703) 308-1113. The fax number for after-final communications is (703) 872-9327.



R. Zeender 12/2/03

F. Zeender
Patent Examiner, A.U. 3627
December 2, 2003